

within their own communities. Thirty cities competed to be named one of ten All-America cities by the National Civic League. As a result of the President's Summit for America's Future, organizers of the All-America City program have asked cities to include at least one community youth program as part of their application.

The Mayor of Riverside, Ron Loveridge, credited three of the city's programs as being the key to the victory: the Passport to College Program, which is an innovative business, education, community, and family partnership that will make the dream of a college education possible for every Inland Empire graduate in 2004, the Youth Action Plan under which the city coordinates services for the region's youth; and the University/Eastside Community Collaborative after-school program that has enabled the city to keep at-risk youth away from the lure of gang activity.

Growing up in a neighboring city, I have seen Riverside face the challenges and seize the opportunities presented by the Inland Empire's significant population growth. Today, Riverside thrives with a population exceeding several hundred thousand residents and a diverse economic base. Representing the people of Riverside is truly a privilege. On behalf of all of the residents of the 43rd congressional district, I congratulate Riverside on being named an All-America City and wish them continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO REV. BERNARD
GUEKGUEZIAN

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Reverend Bernard Guekguezian. Reverend Guekguezian will be honored by the members of the First Armenian Presbyterian Church at a Harvest Banquet commemorating their 100th Anniversary. First Armenian Presbyterian is the oldest Armenian Church in California.

Reverend Guekguezian has literally lived and ministered around the world. Born in Antioch, Turkey, the reverend emigrated to the Middle East in 1939. In 1952 he completed a combined course of study at the American University of Beirut and Near East School of Theology. He became a licensed pastor and served for two years in Alexandria Egypt before coming to the United States. He studied at the Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena California and went on to earn a Master of Arts degree in Christian Education from the New York Theological Seminary.

Reverend Guekguezian was ordained a Minister of the Word in 1959, by the Congregational Conference of Massachusetts. He went on to assume the pulpit of America's oldest Armenian Church, the Armenian Congregational Church of the Martyrs in Worcester. Reverend Guekguezian engaged in doctoral studies at Clark University and in 1966 he accepted a call to the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, New Jersey where he served for 12 years. Guekguezian has served at the First Armenian Presbyterian Church of Fresno for 20 years, the longest of any pastor at the Golden States oldest Armenian religious

institution. Reverend Guekguezian's tenure has been marked by outreach to native Californians as well as to Armenian immigrants from the Middle East and the Republic of Armenia.

Reverend Guekguezian has officiated at 163 weddings, 212 baptisms, and more than 200 funerals during his time in Fresno. In addition to his pastoral duties Guekguezian has served as a Moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America, Vice-President of the Armenian Evangelical World Council, Vice-President of the Armenian Theological Students' Aid Inc., and member of the Presbytery of the San Joaquin New Church Development Committee.

Reverend Guekguezian is married to the former Knar Kazanjian of Aleppo, Syria and they have two sons, Reverend Ara Guekguezian of Las Vegas, Nevada and Asbed Guekguezian Esq., of Boston Massachusetts, as well as three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Reverend Bernard Guekguezian as honoree for the First Armenian Presbyterian Church, 100th Anniversary Harvest Banquet. Reverend Guekguezian has served the community well in his time in Fresno and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in wishing him many years of continued success and happiness.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE
LEONARDO SIMAO, FOREIGN
MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF
MOZAMBIQUE, AND HONORING
THE WORK OF THE HONORABLE
JOAQUIM ALBERTO CHISSANO,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF MOZAMBIQUE

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, today as I welcome the Foreign Minister of Mozambique, the Honorable Leonardo Simao, I also Rise to Honor a true statesman and peacemaker—President Joaquim Alberto Chissano.

President Chissano assumed the Presidency of Mozambique in November 1, 1986, after his country has been at war—with almost no interval of peace—for more than 22 years.

Mozambique now has peace and a pluralistic democratic political system. Much of the credit for this—as well as for similar developments in other countries in the region—must go to the quiet and steady work of this Mozambican statesman. Chissano pursued peace by negotiation no matter how few the cards he held in comparison to more powerful players. HE earned respect from his people and from foreigners alike as he led his country through many difficult years.

In sum, Mozambique has suffered more than its share from war. It has given more than its share for regional peace and cooperation. They sought—and also gave—the hand of solidarity. President Chissano expressed these Mozambican values and gave them direction. Africa and the world can learn and take hope from his example.

TRIBUTE TO OUR MEN AND
WOMEN IN UNIFORM

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, the military chiefs have brought their readiness problems to Congress, and the Secretary of Defense has brought his case for a bigger budget to the President. Here in Congress, we tend to see defense from a broad overview. We hear a lot about procurement cost overruns and too little about the men and women in uniform who work long hours, and through innovation and ingenuity, save their country millions of dollars.

I visited Shaw Air Force Base in my district over the August break. After seeing some of the efficiencies that Air force personnel have put into practice at Shaw. I asked Colonel Daniel P. Leaf, Commander of the 20th Fighter Wing at Shaw, to give me a letter detailing their cost avoidance initiatives. Here is how Colonel Leaf described the efficiencies and savings that his personnel at Shaw have implemented:

"In FY 97, the innovation and ingenuity of our folks led to cost avoidance and savings of over \$3 million on 99 spare TF34-34-GE-100A engines. Our Regional Repair Center supports A-10 units at Pope AFB NC, Moody AFB GA, Eglin AFB FL, and Spangdahlem AB GE. NCOs suggested a change to erosion inspection criteria on TF34s engines. Once approved, that allowed us to reuse nine compressor rotors, \$513,693 and 1,350 man-hours in FY97 alone. Other TF34 repair centers adopted this change and saved the taxpayers \$684,924 and 1,800 man-hours. Our technicians came up with another high value initiative, recommending field replacement of high-pressure turbine blades in the field instead of sending the entire assembly back to depot. This change saved \$45,300 per engine or \$814,400 and 11,520 man-hours in FY97! These additional man-hours equate to more engines, more savings, and improved readiness. These and other changes to take us over \$3,000,000 in savings represent the best of the American spirit. In FY98 we've avoided expenditures and saved a total of \$1.6 million. Adding our engine savings up since FY94 comes to over \$16 million—I am immensely proud of this team!

"We have had several other 'airman-based' success stories I would like to share with you in a little less detail. As one of a few lead wings in the Air Force, we're converting all our F-16s from bias ply to radial tires. Radial tires provide 50 percent more landings, cutting man-hours and use of support equipment. The Corrosion Control Element identified a local source of Sherwin-Williams paint saving \$3,500 annually. This paint requires less thinner, improves adhesion, and reduces hazardous organic compounds 60 percent. The troops also developed a process reducing the chromate exposure while preparing aircraft for paint reducing environmental impact and protecting our personnel. Our people took the initiative to establish a state-of-the-art cable repair operation for our F-16s and support equipment. This is only one in Air Combat Command (ACC), and has already realized over \$20,000 in savings with an annual projection of \$260,000. Our specialists researched

F-16 wing braces believing the fracture criterion was too strict for minor nicks. Coordinating with engineers at depot, they approved our ideas, saving \$19,000 and 780 man-hours on the spot. This is already having a major impact on repairing F-16s across the Air Force. We are now ordering all vehicle parts, directly cutting out the middleman and saving a projected \$28,000 this year. Our Base Service Store on Shaw has now been contracted out to LC Industries, expanding service, equipment, and including hazardous materials.

"We are leading the Air Force in reengineering our processes in Transportation and Supply by combining similar functions and eliminating others. We will cut about 30 positions equating to about \$1 million in annual personnel savings. To improve our processes, we are consolidating similar technologies into a Center of Technology concept. Consolidating maintenance, supply, and transportation processes will reduce the number of facilities used and relocate them closer to the customer on the flightline. In maintenance alone, we will reduce operating locations by five, decreasing supervisors' span of control, facility maintenance, and increasing productivity.

"All of the hard work, great ideas, and process improvements led to a number of awards. We won the ACC Supply Daedalian Award and placed second in the Air Force Oust behind Air Mobility Command's entry, Charles-town AFB. Transportation Squadron took command honors by winning the National Defense Transportation Award. The 78th Fighter Squadron won the ACC and Air Force maintenance effectiveness Award (Small Aircraft Category), while the Component Repair Squadron won the ACC Maintenance Effectiveness Award."

DEDICATION OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR MEMORIAL AT RIVERSIDE NATIONAL CEMETERY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make Members aware of an important event taking place in my district during the end of next year.

The Congressional Medal of Honor Society will host a convention on November 3-7, 1999 in Riverside, California. The convention will consist of two parts. The first will be an actual gathering of Medal of Honor recipients, their spouses, and other interested participants. The second will be a dedication of a memorial at Riverside National Cemetery, the second largest national cemetery next to Arlington, for all Medal of Honor recipients past and present.

Of the 3,417 Medals of Honor which have been presented since 1863, only 162 recipients are still with us. During the course of the convention, the members of the Society will hold a memorial service at Riverside National Cemetery. Attendees will commemorate and remember those who have died since the last convention. Shortly thereafter, dedication ceremonies for the newly-built Medal of Honor Memorial will take place.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend the hard work of those planning the convention, as well

as those who are organizing the construction and dedication of the memorial site. They are at this moment trying to raise the necessary funding through private donations. Even for worthwhile projects such as the convention and memorial dedication, which all freedom loving Americans support, both organizing committees have decided to forego taxpayer funds. By this, I am truly impressed.

I am honored and proud to have the Riverside National Cemetery located in my district. Those who are interred come from every State of the Union. The Riverside National Cemetery is the most active cemetery in the system, averaging more than 29 burials per day. This rate will increase with the passage of time. When the cemetery is fully utilized, there will be approximately 1,400,000 honored dead interred at Riverside National Cemetery. It may soon dwarf Arlington National Cemetery and virtually every other cemetery in the national system.

Riverside National Cemetery, at present, is the final resting place for two Medal of Honor recipients—Staff Sgt. Ysmael Villegas, United States Army, awarded posthumously for actions in the Philippines, and Commander John Henry Balch, United States Navy, awarded for actions in France. Among the many other veterans buried at RNC is one of the last Buffalo Soldiers, Woody Strode. Mr. Strode was an African-American actor who performed in several western movies.

In my state of California, 102 individuals have been awarded the Medal of Honor. One was Lt. John Finn, USN (ret.) the most senior living recipient. He was decorated for his action of December 7, 1941. Just as noteworthy, he was already nearing retirement at that time. Another was Brigadier General John Doolittle who was decorated for his actions in leading what everyone believed would be a one-way trip in the raid on Tokyo barely six months after Pearl Harbor. Finally, there was Private First Class Sadao Munemori, United States Army. He was decorated posthumously for his actions as a member of the most decorated unit in World War II, the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team. With their cry of "Go For Broke," this unit was composed entirely of Nisei, or second generation Americans of Japanese ancestry. They helped turn the tide against Germany in World War II.

Mr. Speaker, the Medal of Honor memorial will contain all 3,417 names. At present, there is no publicly accessible place in which all of the nation's Medal of Honor recipients are honored at one location. This will truly be a one-of-a-kind memorial.

For each Medal of Honor recipient, an Italian Cypress tree will be placed throughout Riverside National Cemetery. Within the immediate vicinity of the monument, 300 of these trees will be planted. These trees live in excess of 100 years, reach heights of over 100 feet, grow well in southern California, and require minimal maintenance. The monument itself will include a walled area which will surround a pool and a miniature waterfall.

An area has already been identified for the location of the memorial. It will not, in any way, interfere with the burial capabilities of the cemetery. It will be located in an easily accessible area for guests and visitors to the cemetery. Across time, it will draw this country's citizens to this national shrine to heroism and patriotism.

In closing, I wish to quote the mission of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society be-

cause I believe it best reflects what this convention and memorial is all about . . . "To serve our country in peace as we did in war . . . To inspire and stimulate our youth to become worthy citizens of our country . . . To foster and perpetuate Americanism."

I look forward to the Congressional Medal of Honor convention and to the dedication of the memorial. This is something that has long been overdue. We must honor those who were willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for our great country.

MULTIPLE CHEMICAL SENSITIVITY DISORDERS

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 1998

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the issue of Multiple Chemical Sensitivity as it relates to both our civilian population and our Gulf War veterans. I continue the submission for the RECORD the latest "Recognition of Multiple Chemical Sensitivity" newsletter which lists the U.S. federal, state and local government authorities, U.S. federal and state courts, U.S. workers' compensation boards, and independent organizations that have adopted policies, made statements, and/or published documents recognizing Multiple Chemical Sensitivity disorders for the benefit of my colleagues.

GOVERNORS OF CONNECTICUT, MISSOURI, NEW MEXICO, NORTH CAROLINA AND WASHINGTON

In (independently) adopting resolutions declaring May 11-17 (July 13-17 in Washington) as MCS Awareness Week. In Washington, the governor issued a second proclamation after rescinding the first on the advice of his General Counsel, just 8 days after it was adopted with approval of the state toxicologist [1998, 7 pages including both Washington versions, R-178].

MARYLAND STATE LEGISLATURE

In Senate Joint Resolution No. 32 directing the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to carry out a study of Chemical Hypersensitivity Syndrome [1988, 3 pages, R-40]. The MDE commissioned a state-of-the-art review from Rebecca Bascom, M.D., entitled "Chemical Hypersensitivity Syndrome Study" [1989, 132 pages, R-41].

MASSACHUSETTS OPERATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION, ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PRODUCT PROCUREMENT PROGRAM

In its final bid document for the procurement of Environmentally Preferable Cleaning Products by state agencies for use in state facilities, which "will not replace the cleaning products already on contract; they will be offered as alternatives." The product specifications developed by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Office of Technical Assistance, include "desirable" (as distinct from "mandatory") criteria that products contain as few volatile organic compounds (VOCs) as possible and not contain any added dyes or fragrances. These are justified in Appendix N of the bid document on the grounds that "A lower VOC content . . . is especially important for sensitive individuals" and "The Commonwealth recognizes that many sensitive individuals prefer cleaning products without added dyes and fragrances." [1998, 30 page excerpt including Appendix N, R-181]